

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the original specification as indicated. A marked-up version of the specification is attached as Attachment A, page 12, and a cleaned-up version is attached as Attachment B, page 21.

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Applicant has enclosed herewith new formal drawings (FIGS. 1-4) to be substituted for the drawings as originally filed. Also, included are a copy of new drawings in the form of a pen-and-ink sketch showing changes in red ink.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as noted and by adding new Claims 7-16. A marked-up version of the amended claims is attached as Attachment A beginning at page 19, and a cleaned-up version is attached as Attachment B beginning at page 25.

REMARKS

As an initial matter, the Applicants thank the Examiner for notifying the applicant of a defect in the oath or declaration and a procedural defect in submitting changes to the specification filed 3-20-01. The Applicants have enclosed herewith a Supplemental Declaration. Applicants have also included new formal drawings (FIGS.1-4), and a copy showing the proposed changes in red ink. The Applicants have also amended the specification to correct some informalities and reflect a revised element numbering scheme. The Applicants submit that these minor amendments and corrections herein are made without prejudice and not to overcome prior art, and no new matter has been added. Please note that all references to the application or figures therein, in the below discussions, are made to the version of the application examined by the Examiner for this Official Action.

Claim 1-6 Are Nonobvious (Paragraph 7, Page 3)

The Examiner rejected Claim 1 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sandhu et al. (6,347,307) in view of Guthrie et al. (5,289,372). Applicants respectfully disagree.

First, as a prerequisite, to rely on a reference under 35 U.S.C. 103, it must be analogous prior art. (MPEP 2141.01). The Applicant contends that the Guthrie et al. '372 patent is totally